IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A load-balancing unit configured to apply each fuzzy logic rule of a plurality of fuzzy logic rules to each value of sets of fuzzified, dynamic values indicating network traffic flow, to generate an area associated with each fuzzy logic rule and an aggregate area from a combination of areas associated with the fuzzy logic rules, and to generate a selection index from a center of gravity of the aggregate area for each of the sets ~~based on results thereof~~, wherein the apply is performed independent of the values.

2. (Original) The unit as in claim 1 wherein the unit comprises a load balancing switch.

3. (Original) The unit as in claim 1 wherein the unit comprises a load balancing router.

4. (Original) The unit as in claim 1 wherein the unit comprises a programmed media.

5. (Currently Amended) The unit as in claim 1 further configured ~~adapted~~ to direct a request to a server associated with one of the generated selection indices.

6. (Currently Amended) The unit as in claim 5 further configured ~~adapted~~ to direct a request to a server associated with a highest selection index.

7. (Previously Presented) The unit as in claim 1 wherein each of the indicator values represents a dynamic operating status of a server.

8. (Previously Presented) The unit as in claim 7 wherein the server is one of multiple servers grouped together to form a server farm and each of the sets of indicator values is uniquely associated with one of the multiple servers.

9. (Previously Presented) The unit as in claim 8 wherein the server farm is for providing service for incoming requests of an Internet Service Provider and one of the multiple servers is

selected to provide service for one of the incoming requests based on the selection index associated therewith.

10. (Original) The unit as in claim 1 wherein the indicator values comprise values associated with a response time, a number of active connections and a delivered throughput.

Claims 11-14 (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for selecting Internet servers comprising:

applying each fuzzy logic rule of a plurality of fuzzy logic rules to each value of sets of fuzzified, dynamic values indicating network traffic flow, wherein the applying is independent of the values; ~~and~~

generating an area associated with each fuzzy logic rule;

generating an aggregate area from a combination of areas associated with the fuzzy logic rules; and

generating a selection index from a center of gravity of the aggregate area for each of the sets ~~based on results of the applying~~.

16. (Original) The method as in claim 15 further comprising directing a request to a server associated with one of the generated selection indices.

17. (Original) The method as in claim 16 further comprising directing a request to a server associated with a highest selection index.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 15 wherein each set of the indicator values represents a dynamic operating status of a server.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 15 wherein each of the fuzzy logic rules contribute to a calculation of the selection index for each set.

20. (Previously Presented) The unit as in claim 15 wherein the method further comprises selecting a server from a server farm based on the selection indexes to provide a requested service.

21. (Original) The method as in claim 15 wherein the indicator values comprise values associated with a response time, a number of active connections and a delivered throughput.

Claims 22-25 (Canceled)